

## **CHAPTER 54-05-01**

### **STANDARDS OF PRACTICE FOR LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES**

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**54-05-01-01. Statement of intent.** Each licensed practical nurse is responsible and accountable to practice according to the standards of practice prescribed by the board and the profession. The purpose of the standards is:

1. To establish practice parameters for safe nursing practice.
2. To serve as a guide for the board to regulate the practice of the licensed practical nurse.

**History:** Effective June 1, 1979; amended effective January 1, 1994; May 1, 1996; April 1, 2004.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-12.1-08

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-12.1-18

**54-05-01-02. Licensed practical nurse's contribution to, and responsibility for, the nursing process.** Repealed effective February 1, 1998.

**54-05-01-02.1. Licensed practical nurse's contribution to, and responsibility for, the nursing process.** The licensed practical nurse assists in implementing the nursing process. The licensed practical nurse under the direction of the registered nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, or licensed practitioner:

1. Contributes to the assessment of health status of individuals including interactions of individuals with family members or group members, by:
  - a. Collecting basic objective and subjective data from observations, examinations, interviews, and written records. The scope and the depth of data collection is determined by the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the licensed practical nurse and by the client's immediate condition or needs. Data collection will consider:

- (1) Physical and emotional status;
  - (2) Growth and development;
  - (3) Cultural, spiritual, and socioeconomic background;
  - (4) Health history;
  - (5) Information collected by other health team members;
  - (6) Client understanding of health status and self-care needs;
  - (7) Ability to perform activities of daily living and personal care;
  - (8) Environmental factors (e.g., physical, social, emotional, and ecological);
  - (9) Available and accessible human and material resources; and
  - (10) Such additional data as may be necessary to assess health status.
- b. Recording and reporting the data.
- c. Assisting with validating, refining, and modifying the data by utilizing available resources including interactions with the client, family, significant others, and health team members.
2. Contributes to establishing nursing diagnoses that identify the needs of the client by:
  - a. Identifying signs and symptoms of deviations from normal health status; and
  - b. Identifying overt learning needs.
3. Participates in the development of the plan of care for individuals which includes:
  - a. Recognition of the client's physical, psychological, social, cultural, ethnic, and spiritual needs;
  - b. Recognition of the client's beliefs and rights to choice;
  - c. Contributing to the identification of priorities;
  - d. Contributing to setting goals and outcomes;

- e. Assisting in identification of measures to maintain comfort;
  - f. Assisting in supporting human functions and response;
  - g. Assisting in maintaining an environment conducive to well-being;
  - h. Consideration of the overt learning needs of the client; and
  - i. Contributing to the identification of community resources for continued care.
4. Participates in implementing the nursing plan of care and the nursing interventions for the client under the licensed practical nurse's care by:
- a. Caring for clients whose conditions are stable or predictable;
  - b. Assisting with clients whose conditions are critical or unpredictable;
  - c. Implementing nursing care according to the priority of needs and established practices;
  - d. Assigning or delegating components of nursing care to other members of the nursing care team as defined in chapter 54-05-04;
  - e. Providing an environment conducive to safety and health;
  - f. Documenting nursing interventions and client responses to care;
  - g. Communicating nursing interventions and responses to care to appropriate members of the health care team; and
  - h. Administering medications and treatments prescribed by a licensed practitioner.
5. Contributes to the evaluation of the responses of individuals to nursing interventions by:
- a. Documenting the evaluation data;
  - b. Communicating the evaluation data to appropriate members of the health care team; and
  - c. Assisting in the modification of the plan of care based upon the evaluation.

**History:** Effective February 1, 1998.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-12.1-08

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-12.1-18

**54-05-01-03. Licensed practical nurse responsibilities as a member of the health care team.** The licensed practical nurse is responsible and accountable for the care provided and assuring the safety and well-being of the clients. The licensed practical nurse's acceptance of assigned nursing responsibilities must be based upon client care needs; the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the practical nurse; and organization policy. The licensed practical nurse under the direction of the registered nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, or licensed practitioner will:

1. Involve the client and significant others in the client's health restoration, promotion, and maintenance.
2. Utilize established lines of authority and communication to provide care to clients.
3. Participate in client teaching specific to the learning needs by implementing or modifying teaching plans.
4. Manage the environment and resources effectively and efficiently to meet clients' needs and attain expected outcomes.
5. Recognize and utilize the current knowledge base of nursing practice.
6. Recognize and protect clients' rights.
7. Practice within the ethical frameworks and standards of the nursing profession.
8. Evaluate own nursing practice in relation to professional nursing practice standards.
9. Participate in quality improvement activities to evaluate and modify practice.
10. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the statutes and rules governing nursing and function within the legal boundaries of practical nursing practice.
11. Observe and follow the duly adopted standards, policies, directives, and orders of the board as they may relate to the licensed practical nurse.
12. Retain accountability for interventions assigned or delegated to other members of the nursing care team.
13. Protect confidential information unless obligated by law to disclose the information.
14. Participate in peer review and other evaluation processes.

15. Acquire and maintain current knowledge in nursing practice.

**History:** Effective January 1, 1994; amended effective May 1, 1996; February 1, 1998.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-12.1-08

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-12.1-18

**54-05-01-04. Criteria for delegation to licensed practical nurses.**  
Repealed effective February 1, 1998.

**54-05-01-05. Criteria for delegation of specialized nursing care to the licensed practical nurse.** Repealed effective May 1, 1996.

**54-05-01-06. Role of the licensed practical nurse in intravenous therapy.** Selected components in the nursing management of intravenous therapy as defined by the board may be performed by a licensed practical nurse who has completed a board-approved associate degree program that includes intravenous therapy in the curriculum or one who has successfully completed a course in intravenous therapy which was developed according to board guidelines and approved by the board.

**History:** Effective May 1, 1996.

**General Authority:** NDCC 43-12.1-08

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 43-12.1-18